

United States Department of Agriculture National Agricultural Statistics Service

Pacific Region Fruit & Nut Review



The Pacific Region Includes the States of CA, HI and NV

Pacific Regional Field Office · P.O. Box 1258 · Sacramento, CA 95812 · (916) 498-5161 · (855) 270-2722 Fax · www.nass.usda.gov/ca

Released: May 13, 2015 VOL. 3 NO. 5

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APRIL CROP COMMENTS - CALIFORNIA

Mechanical and chemical weed control continued in fruit tree orchards. Grapes continued to leaf out. Sulfur treatments were applied to grapevines where rain occurred. Second applications for downy mildew control in grapes were applied. Shoot removal in vineyards continued. Fungicide was applied to wine grapes. Some growers applied the necessary pesticides for European Grapevine moth prevention. Prune trees continued to set fruit. Pomegranate bloom continued. Mid-month hail damage was spotty throughout the southern part of the State with a

few reports of light damage to the new cherry and grape crops. The harvest of early variety cherries and peaches started in the central part of the State mid-month. Pollination of dates also began mid-month. Older and younger walnut trees started to bloom. Almonds were irrigated and fertilized through drip. Nuts continued to size. Almond nut drop began and micronutrients were applied. Pistachios also received fungicide applications.

The citrus bloom was still underway at the beginning of April, as growers awaited the declaration of petal-fall. Valencia oranges, Murcott, Mandarins, sweet limes, Star Ruby grapefruit, and Meyer lemons continued to be harvested, packed and shipped to domestic and foreign markets throughout the month. Topping and skirting of established citrus groves were ongoing; planting of new groves started. Netting was removed in seedless Mandarin groves as the bloom ended. Olive trees continued to be pruned, with reports of some blooms in the central part of the State early in April; groves continued to be pruned and irrigated.

CALIFORNIA FRUIT AND NUT STATISTICS AT A GLANCE

	Bearing Acreage		Yield Per Acre		Estimated Production		Production	Next Crop
Crop	2014	2015	2014	2015	2014	2015	Percent Change	Update
NUT CROPS	Acres		Pounds		1,000 Pounds			
Almonds (Shelled)	870,000	890,000	2,150	2,080	1,870	1,850	-1	July 1, 2015
Pecans					5,000			July 17, 2015
Pistachio (In-Shell)					•			,
Marketable In-Shell					409,000			
Shelling Stock					105,000			
Total	215,000		2,390		514,000			July 17, 2015
			Tons		1,000 Tons			
Walnuts (In-Shell)	290,000		1.95		565			July 17, 2015
Macadamias (Hawaii)	16,000		1.25		20.0			July 17, 2015
FRUIT CROPS								
Apples	15,000		7.67		115			July 17, 2015
Apricots	9,500		5.83		55.4			July 10, 2015
Cherries	33,000		1.21		40.0			June 24, 2015
Grapes, Raisin	200,000		9.10		1,819			July 17, 2015
Grapes, Table	110,000		10.00		1,100			July 17, 2015
Grapes, Wine	570,000		6.84		3,900			July 17, 2015
Grapes, All	880,000		7.75		6,819			July 17, 2015
Table Olives	40,000		2.06		82.3			July 17, 2015
Peaches, Clingstone	20,000		16.60		332	306	-8	July 17, 2015
Peaches, Freestone	24,000		11.80		284	260	-8	July 17, 2015
Pears, Bartlett	8,500		18.50		157			July 17, 2015
Pears, Other	2,600		13.50		35.0			July 17, 2015
Plums, Dried (Prunes)	48,000		1.98		95			June 2, 2015
BERRIES			Cwt.		1,000 Cwt.			
Strawberries 1/	41,500		665		27,577			July 17, 2015
CITRUS CROPS 2/	2013-14	2014-15	2013-14	2014-15	2013-14	2014-15		
			Cart	tons	1,000 Ca	artons		
Grapefruit	10,000		770		7,700	7,600	-1	July 10, 2015
Lemons	46,000		817		37,600	40,000	6	July 10, 2015
Oranges, Navel	133,000		582		77,400	80,000	3	July 10, 2015
Oranges, Valencia	36,000	34,000	594	588	21,400	20,000	-7	July 10, 2015
Mandarins & Mandarin								
Hybrids 3/	45,000		653		29,400	32,000	9	July 10, 2015

(NC) No Change

- 1/ Includes fresh market and processing.
- 2/ All citrus fruit-- 40.0 lbs per carton.
- 3/ Includes tangelos, tangerines, and tangors.

U.S. Citrus

The United States all orange forecast for the 2014-2015 season is 6.43 million tons, down 4 percent from the previous forecast and down 5 percent from the 2013-2014 final utilization. The Florida all orange forecast, at 96.4 million boxes (4.34 million tons), is down 5 percent from the previous forecast and down 8 percent from last season's final utilization. Early, midseason, and Navel varieties in Florida are forecast at 47.4 million boxes (2.13 million tons), up 1 percent from the previous forecast but down 11 percent last season's final utilization. The Florida Valencia orange forecast, at 49.0 million boxes (2.21 million tons), is down 11 percent from the previous forecast and down 5 percent from last season's final utilization. California and Texas orange production estimates were carried forward from the April 1 forecast.

Almond Production

The subjective production forecast for the 2015 California almond crop is 1.85 billion pounds. Forecasted production is 1 percent below last year's production of 1.87 billion pounds and 8 percent below 2013's production of 2.01 billion pounds. Forecasted bearing acreage for 2015 is 890 thousand. The subjective production forecast is based on a telephone survey conducted from April 14 to April 29 from a sample of almond growers. Of the 485 growers sampled, 328 reported. Acreage from these reports accounted for 29 percent of the total bearing acreage.

The California almond bloom began in early February. The 2015 bloom was one of the earliest almond blooms in memory. In general, the bloom was fast and compact with Monterey and Fritz blooming earlier than Nonpareils. In several instances, the lower two-thirds of trees blossomed two weeks ahead of the top possibly indicating insufficient chilling hours. Nonpareil set appears to be less than optimal while pollinators were reported as looking good overall. Nuts were sizing well with the crop pace at least two weeks ahead of normal and also ahead of last year's early crop. Insect pressure may exceed last year but remains manageable. Water is a problem for many growers with limited amounts available for purchase. Growers irrigating with well water expressed concern regarding salinity.